Alexandria Gazette. SATULDA EVINING, FEB. 4, 1899

THE WITCH'S CURSE.

A GLOOMY OLD LEGEND OF THE TOWN OF BUCKSPORT, ME.

The Imprecations and Prophecy of the Condemned Woman on the Scaffold Recalled by a Strange Blemish on Col. Buck's Tombstone.

Close by the country road on the outskirts of the sleepy old scaport town of Bucksport, on the Penobscot, down in Maine, is a small family cemetery. Within the inclosure, with its high iron fence, in the quiet and almost gloomy shade, sleep the Bucks, the blueblooded and aristocratic clan which first settled the town and bequeathed it their name -and a legend.

Of the many moss grown tablets and monuments the largest and most conspicnous is a tall granite shaft in plain sight of the highway. On one side is the inscription

> COL. JOHN BUCK, The Founder of Bucksport. A. D. 1762 Born in Haverbill, Mass., 1718. Died March 18, 1796.

On the other side is the single word "Buck," and also something not wrought by the marble worker. On the smooth surface of the pedestal is a curious outline, irregular and describing that which can easily be imagined to be the form of a foot of normal size. Some people say that it is a foot, but those are of the superstitious town folk who believe the legend which has been choice stock in Bucksport for many

They that delight in perpetuating this story say that Colonel Jonathan Buck was a very stern and harsh man and the leading spirit of his day and generation. His word was law in the community. He was the highest in civil authority and his decision as immovable as the granite hills that loom up in the haze of the northern horizon.

He was most Puritanical, and to him witchcraft was the incarnation of blas phemy. Thus, so the story goes, when a certain woman was accused of witchcraft, at the first clamorings of the populace Colonel Buck ordered her to be imprisoned, and later, after a mere form of a hearing, she was sentenced to be executed as a witch. She pleaded to Buck for her life, but as to a heart of

The day of the execution came and the condemned woman went to the gallows cursing her judge with such terrible imprecations that the people shuddered, but the magistrate stood unmoved and made a sign to the officers to hasten the arrangements. All was ready and the hangman was about to perform his grewsome duty when the woman turned to Colonel Buck and raising one hand to heaven as if to direct her last words on earth pronounced this astound-

ing prophecy:
"Jonathan Buck, listen to these words, the last my tongue shall utter. It is the spirit of the only true and living God which bids me speak them to you. You will soon die. Over your grave they will erect a stone, that all may know where your bones are crumbling into dust. But listen! Upon that stone the imprint of my feet will appear, and for all time, long after your accursed race has perished from the face of the earth, will the people from far and near know that you murdered a woman Remember well, Jonathan Buck, remember well!"

Then she turned to her executioners and another act, one of the forever ineffaceable blots, was made a part of American colonial history.

The "witch's curse," as it was call-

ed, and is to this day, was almost forgotten until many years afterward, when the monument was erected to the mem-ory of Bucksport's founder. It had been in position hardly a month when a faint outline was discovered upon it. This gradually grew more and more distinct until some one made the startling discovery that it was the outline of a foot which some supernatural draftsman had traced on the granite. The old leg-end was revived and the Buck cemetery was for years the Mecca of the superstitious and curious for miles around. The "witch's curse" had been ful-filled, they said. An attempt was made to remove the stain, but all efforts tended only to bring the outline out in bolder relief. The stain or whatever it was seemed to penetrate to the very center of the stone.

The hinges of the big gate have creaked for the last time to admit a Buck. The last of the race has been laid to rest beneath the oaks and maples, and the setting sun throws the shadow of the once mighty Colonel Jonathan Buck's monument athwart the double row of mossy mounds, as if still exerting his authority, and the same rays light that mysterious tracing held up to the view of all that pass and

repass along the dusty turnpike.

The imprint of the foot is a fact, and is there today as plain as ever. The legend of the "witch's curse" may or may not be a fact. The fanciful defend the legend, but the practical point out the apparent discrepancy between the dates of the era of witchcraft persecution and the regime of Colonel Buck They say that the stain is simply an accidental fault in the granite, and that the legend was made to fit the foot and not the foot the legend. But the foot is there.—Philadelphia Inquirer.

An Honest Medicine for La Grippe George W. Waitt, of South Gardiner, Me., says: "I have bad the worst cough, cold, chills and grippe and have taken lots of trash of no account but profit to the vendor. Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is the only thing that has done any good whatever. I have used one 50 cent bottle and the chills. cold and grippe have all left me. I congratulate the manufacturers of an honest medicine." For sale by J. H. Janney, Druggist, 701 King St.

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Double daily fast trains, carrying Pull nan sleeping and dining cars Mardi Gras Festivities, Birmingham For the above occasion the Southern Rail-way will sell tickets from all points on its line to Birmingham, Ala., and return at one fare for the round trip. Tickets on sale February 7th to 13th, inclusive; final limit February 28th. Two fast trains daily for Birmingham, carying Pullman sleeping cars, day coaches and dining cars.

To Charlottesville and Return. For the occasion of the State convention B. Y. P. U., at Charlottesville, Va., February 21 and 22, the Southern Railway will sell tickets from points in Virginia and Washington, D. C., to Charlottesville and return at greatly reduced rates. Tickets on sale February 19 to 21, inclusive; final limit February 19.

Through Sleeping Car to Aiken and Angysta, Ga ---southern Railway. Beginning Monday, January 30, the New York and Aiken sleeper on the Florida limited, leaving Washington at 5:50 pm. week days, will be operated to Augusta, and the New York and Augusta sleeper on the Washington and Foutsweetern limited, leaving Washington at 10:45 pm. daily, will be operated to Aiken.

Sleeping Car Service to Miami, Fla., by Southern Railway.

Beginning January 30, the Pullman sleep-ing car now operated between New York and Jacksonville on the United States Fast Mail leaving Washington at 11:15 a. m. daily, will be extended to Miami, Fla, where semi-weekly connection is made with steamers for Havana and tri-weekly connection for Nas

For the above occasion the Southern Bailway Company will sell takets to New Orleans at one fare for the round trip which from Washington will be \$27.50; tickets on sale February 7 to 13, inclusive; final limit February 28. Double daily fast trains leave Washington 11:15 s. m. and 10:45 p. m. Through sleepers and dining car service.

Opening and Closing 26.

Opening and Closing of the Mails.

Northern mails, week days, close at 7 30 and 11 45 s. m. and 1 15, 2 50, 6 50 and 8 30 p. m. Open at 8 00 a. m., 12 00 m. and 5 00 p. m. On Sundays Northern mails close at 11 14 s. m. and 7 20 p. m.

Southern mails via Charlottesville, close at 7 50 and 10 55 s. m. and 2 15 and 8 10 p. m. Open at 8 00 a. m. and 2 30 and 4:30 p. m.

Southern mails, via Richmond, close at 10 20 s. m. and 3 13 and 8 30 p. m.

Manassas Division mails close at 7 50 s. m. and 3 45 p. m. Open at 1 p. m.

Alexandria and Round Hill mails close at 8 40 s. m. and 4 00 p. m. Open at 9 60 s. m. and 3 30 p. m.

and 3 30 p. m.

Chesapeake and Ohio nails close at 2 15 p. m. and 8 30 p. m. Open at 8 00 a. m. and a, m., and 1 15, 2 50, 6 50 and 8 30 p. m., Open at 8 00 s. m., 12 (8) m. and 3 00 and 1 30 n. m.

at 9 30 s. m. Carriers' Schedule—Collections made on inside routes—6 30 and 10 00 s. m. and and 5 30 p.m. Full route—6 30 s.m. and 5 30 p.m. Sunday collection 5 00 p.m. Carriers' window open Sunday 9 00 s.m.

m. Carriers' window open Sunday 9 00 s. m., and close 9 30 s. m.

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Natural Bridge daily, and Lexington, daily except Sunday.

11:35 A M.—Daily—THE UNITEO STATES FAST MAIL. Pullman Sleepers, New York and Washington to Jackson-ville, "t. Augustine and Miami; uniting at Salisbury with Sleeper for Asheville and Hot Sp in s. N. C.; Knoxville, thattanooga, and Mimphis, Tenu., and at Charlette with sleeper for Augusta. Sleeper New York to New Orleans uniting at Char-New York to New Orleans, uniting at Char-lotte with Sleeper for Atlants. Solid train New York to New Orleans, uniting at Char-lotte with Sleeper for Atlants. Solid train Washington to New Orleans without change, Dining car service. Sunser Personally Con-ducted Tourists' Excursion. Sleeper on this train every Wednesday and Saturday to San rancisco, without change. 4:23 P. M.-Local for Front Royal, Stras-

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4:52 P. M — Daily for Charlottesville,
6:07 P. M.— Daily except Sunday—NEW
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urg. Through trains from the South arrive st Alexandria 6:17 a m. 9:25 a m., 1:55 p ru, and S:45 p m daily, Harrisonburg, 11:35 a, m. daily, except Sunday, and S: 55 a, m. daily from Charlottesville. For detailed schedule figures, tickets, Pull-man reservation etc. apply to A.C. MOSS, ticket agent, Alexandria, Va.

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N. B. Same schedule Sundays, commencing at 9 30 s. m.

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St. Clement's Bay and Leonardtown. C. W. RIDLEY, General Manager, JOHN B. PADGETT, Agent. DAILY LINE TO NOBFOLK AND FORT

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Will run a DAILY LINE, commencing on Monday, March 30, with their new and powarful iron steamars

NEWPORT NEWS, WASHINGTON AND NORFOLK, Leaving the wharf at the foot of Prince stree

Single fare \$3. Hound trip \$5.



A GRAPHOPHONE is an ideal holiday pres ent. In its train come all the delights enjoy-ed through the sense of hearing. On a Graphophone one can make instantly and reor of any sound. Graphophones are sold for \$10 and up.

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Full Line of BED SPREADS, COMFORTS, BLANKETS, SHEETINGS, COTTONS, GINGHAMS, ETC, ETC. FULL LINE OF FURNISHINGS

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you are doubtless looking for something crisp, delicate and appetizing for the table, and at the same time easily digested and assimilable CREAM BISCUIT on sale at all the stores and you will thank

(NATIONAL BISCUIT COMPANY)
Alexandria, Va. FANCY MILD CREAM CHEESE just re-

us for the pointer.

RAILROADS.

Southern Railway. PENNSYLVANIA [Schedule in Effect Nov. 20, 1804 TRAINS LEAVE WASHINGTON STATION CORNER OF SIXTH AND

STREETS.
For Alexandria 4 30, 7 45 and 11 45 a.m. 3 46, 4 25 and 5 00 P M. Sunday 4 22 and 7 45 a.m. and 3 45 and 5 00 P M. Sunday 4 22 and 7 45 A.M. and 3 45 and 5 00 P M. Tree of the sunday 4 and 5 and burg to Pittsburg.

10:50 A. M. PENNSYLVANIA LIMITER

Pullman Sleeping, Dining, St Observation Cars Harrisburg Cincinnati, Indianapolis, St. L land and Toledo. Buffet Parle risburg. 10:50 A. M. FAST LINE-13 Parior Car to Harrisburg, Ba Car Harrisburg to Pitteburg, 3,30 P.M. CHICAGO AND ST. L

PRESS—Sleeping car Washing Louis, and sleeping and Diming (burg to St. Louis, Nashville, nati and Chicago. 7:20;P. M. WESTERN EXPRESS Skeping Car to Pittsburg a Dining Car to Chicago 20 PM. SOUTHWESTEEN Pullman Sleeping Cars Was Pittsburg and Harrisburg of Cleveland and Chacimust. Din 10:40 P. M. PACHFIC EXPERS. Sleeping Car to Pittsburg. 7:50 A. M. for Earne, Camandaigna, and Niscora Felladelly. and Niagara Falls daily, excep-

and Niagars Falls daily, except and daily, except Sunday. For Vidaily at 3:30 P. M.
7:20 P. M. for Williamsport, Back Buffalo and Niagara Falls dail Saturday, with Sleeping Car W to Rochester.
10:40 p. m. for Erie, Canandaigus, Buffalo and Niagars Falls daily Sleeping Car Wschington to Society Garden Car Wschington C

urdays only. FOR PHILADELPHIA, NEW YORK AND THE EAST.
4:00 P. M. "CONGRESSIONAL LIMITED" daily, all Parlor Cars, with District

daily, all Parlor Cars, with Imms daily, all Parlor Cars, with Imms Baltimore.

Be glar at 7 00 (Dining Car), and 11 ing Car from Wilmington A. 3 15, 4 20, (Dining Car) and 11 ing Car from Wilmington A. 3 15, 4 20, (Dining Car from 6 50, 10 00, and 11 50 P. M. 6 7 00 (Dining Car from Wilmington 12 15, 3 15, 4 20, (Dining Car from Wilmington 12 15, 3 15, 4 20, (Dining Car from Wilmington 12 15, 3 15, 4 20, (Dining Car from Wilmington 12 15, 3 15, 4 20, (Dining Car from Wilmington 12 15, 3 15, 4 20, 10 00, and 11 50 Philadelphia only. Express 12 week days, 2 01 and 5 40 P. Yor Boston, without change, 7 50 days, and 4 20 P. M. daily. For Baltimore 6 20, 7 00, 7 20, 10 00, 10 50, 11 60, A. M. 12 45, 12 58, 2 01, 3 15, (limited), 4 20, 4 36, 5 40, 7 20, 10 60, 10 40, 11 15 and M. Un Sunday 7 00, 7 20, 10 50 and 11 00 A. M. a 115, 2 01, 3 15, 6 50, 7 20, 11 40, 2 46, 6 15, 6 50, 7 20, 11 115, 201, 315, 330, 400 420, 540, 615, 650, 720, 10 and 1150 P.M.

and 11 50 P. M.

For Pope's Creek Line 7 50 A. M.

P. M. week days

For Annapolis 7 00 and 9 00 A.

12 15 and 5 40 P. M. daily exy
day. Sunday 9 00 A. M. and 5

Express for Florida End points on

Cosst Line, 4 30 A. M. and 3

daily; Bichmond only, 11 45 A.

days: Atlanta Special, vis Kichy
days: Atlanta Special, vis Kichy days; Atlanta Special, via 5 Seaboard Air Line, 5 00 P. M. commodation for Quantico, daily, and 4 25 P. M. week SEASHORE CONNECTI Atlantic City (via Del

bridge, all rail route 3 15, gressional Limited") P. M. Market Street Wharf 10 00 and M and 12 45 P. M. week day M and 12 45 P. M. week days a P. M. daily.
For Cape May 11 00 A. M. week 11 50 P. M daily.
Ticket office, corner 15th and 6 S at the station, Sixth and B Street orders can be left for the checking to destination from hotels and rend J. B. HUTCHINSON. J. R. W. General Manager. Graves Pro-

General Manager General Pos-WASHINGTON, ALEXANDE MOUNT VERNON BAILE In Effect November 1, 18

FOR WASHINGTO Leave Alexandria, corner Kin streets, also stops at King and King and Payne streets, week King and Payne streets, week da 6 25, 6 55, 7 20 (express), 7 30, 7 56, 8 20 (express), 8 30 ex 9 30, 10 00, 10 35, 11 04 m. (express), 12 25, 1 00 ex 2 00, 2 40, 3 06 (express), 4 37 (express), 5 00, 5 31 ex 6 05 (express), 6 26, 7 00, 7 18 15, 9 15, 10 15 and 11 15 p. Sundays—7 00, 8 15, 9 00, 9 11 15 a. m., 12 00 noon, 12 45, 3 00, 3 45, 4 30, 5 15, 6 00, 8 15, 9 15, 10 15 and 11 15 p.

FOR ALEXANDEIA. Leave Washington, from t Pennsylvania svenue and 13 days, 6 30, 7 04, 7 35 (e 8 35, 8 59, 9 25, 10 (0, 1) 8 35, 8 59, 9 25, 10 10, 11 m. 12 05 (express) 12 20, 11 s. 1 (express), 2 40, 3 25, 3 59, expres (express), 4 50, 5 05, 5 20, expres 3 04 (express), 6 30, 7 06, 7 35, Payue street only), 8 00, 9 00, 10 1 Beturning will leave Norfolk at 5|45 p. m. Fayle steet only, 8 00, 9 00, 1 and 11 59 n. m. Sundays—7 45, 9 00, 9 45, 10 a. m., 12 00 noon, 12 45, 1 3 00, 3 45, 4 30, 5 15, 6 7 30, 815, 9 00, 10 00, 11 20

FOR MOUNT VERNOR Leave Alexandria for Mount Voldays, at 7 02, 8 35, 10 32, 11 12 32, 1 47, 2 32, 4 43, 7 40 8uddays—7 02, 9 35 a. m
 4 35, 7 16 and 9 32 p. m.
 Leave Mount Vernon, week Leave Mount Vernon, week 9 14, 11 14 a. m., 12 40, 1 5 4 10, 5 30, 8 20 and 10 20 p. Sundays—7 40, 10 20 p. m. Leave Arlington Junetion

and Rosslyn hourly.

Baggage (150 pound free) checked from: stations.

Parcels carried on all trains at the following rates: Under 10 pounds, 5 cents; 102 25 pounds, 10 cents; over 25 to 50 points. Freight carried daily, morning

G. E. ABBOT, MACHINERY J. & H. AITUHESON

ng, in each direction at freight

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Will farnish and repair all kinds of Mischier
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